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PRESS RELEASE

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Goat Hunts Close along Valdez Arm and near Cordova

Cordova – Registration permit hunt RG249 for mountain goats in Game Management Unit 6(D) and RG232 in Unit 6(C) will close at one minute before midnight on October 12, 2012 by emergency order of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Hunt area RG249 includes that portion of Unit 6(D) east of Columbia Glacier and west of Valdez Arm. Hunt area RG232 is near Cordova between Nelson Bay and Scott Glacier.

Cordova area wildlife biologist Dave Crowley said that the population of 270 goats in RG249 could sustain a harvest of 9 goats. The current harvest is 7 goats including 2 nannies, with many additional hunters afield. The quota in RG232 is only 2 goats and 1 nanny was reported taken. Each nanny counts as 2 goats toward the harvest quota. Additional take beyond the harvest objective could harm the long-term stability of these populations. Hunters are encouraged to study and learn sex identification of mountain goats. Information is available at area offices and on the ADF&G website.

The closure affects only registration permit hunts RG249 in Unit 6(D) and RG232 in Unit 6(C). All other mountain goat hunting regulations in the remainder of Game Management Unit 6 are unaffected by this closure.